

**William Short to Thomas Jefferson, October 2,  
1808, from Thomas Jefferson and William Short  
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.  
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**William Short to Thomas Jefferson**

New Castle Oct. 2.-08

Dear Sir

A letter which I address this day to the Sec. of State from here will explain the present state of your Ariso in that we are only waiting for the tide, the wind being adverse. I came here last evening having waited only for yesterday's southern mail. Had there been no delay at all the vessel wd. have sailed from here on Wednesday last but-As it is it will sail to-day-the delay has been therefore three days. In my last I explained to you the causes. I regret the direction given to the vessel, but it is now too late. If I were absolutely certain that you were at Washington I might perhaps take on me to wait until you could be heard from after the arrival there of Mr. Baker. But as it is I have thought it more conformable to the tenor of the business & letter hitherto received to proceed without further delay.

Before my departure I gave letters of introduction, to Mr. Robert Hare Jr. -a young man distinguished for his researches, by the chymists of Europe. He is a brother of the candidate to succeed Mr. Clay as member of Congress. I have but little acquaintance with that gentleman, but the one I introduce to you is a man of merit & a particular friend of mine. I gave also a letter of introduction to Mr. and Mrs. Harrison. They all wished to have an opportunity of paying their respects to you. Mrs. Harrison is a daughter of Mr. Tench

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Francis whom you know. I have been under great obligation to Mr. & Mrs. Harrison for their hospitable

civilities. I shall be much obliged to you to recieve these three persons & to give them that kind of notice which you give to strangers. I can only here add the assurances which you will ever have of the sentiments & best wishes of your friend & servant WShort

RC (Jefferson Papers, DLC)